CLAIMS

1. An oligoarylene derivative represented by the following general formula (1) or (2):

$$Ar^1 \cdot Ch \cdot Ar^2$$
 (1)

wherein Ch is a group containing at least one substituted or unsubstituted condensed aromatic ring having 14 to 20 nuclear carbon atoms; and Ar¹ and Ar² are respectively a substituted or unsubstituted aryl group having 5 to 30 nuclear atoms and may be the same or different from each other, and

$$Ch^1 \cdot L \cdot Ch^2 \tag{2}$$

wherein L is a connecting group; and Ch¹ and Ch² are respectively a group containing at least one substituted or unsubstituted condensed aromatic ring having 14 to 20 nuclear carbon atoms and may be the same or different from each other.

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2. An oligoarylene derivative represented by the following general formula (3) or (4):

$$Ar^{3} \cdot (L^{1})_{a} \cdot Ch^{3} \cdot (L^{2})_{b} \cdot Ar^{4}$$
 (3)

wherein Ch³ is a substituted or unsubstituted arylene group having 14 to 20 nuclear carbon atoms;

 L^1 and L^2 are respectively a connecting group and may be the same or different from each other; a and b are respectively an integer of 0 to 1; and

Ar³ and Ar⁴ are respectively a substituted or unsubstituted aryl group having 5 to 30 nuclear atoms and may be the same or different from each other with the proviso that when Ch³ is a substituted or unsubstituted pyrene residue, Ar³ and/or Ar⁴ are respectively a substituted or unsubstituted β·naphthyl derivative, and

$$Ar^{5} \cdot Ch^{4} \cdot (Ar^{7})_{n} \cdot L^{3} \cdot (Ar^{8})_{m} \cdot Ch^{5} \cdot Ar^{6}$$
 (4)

wherein L³ is a connecting group; Ch⁴ and Ch⁵ are respectively a substituted or unsubstituted arylene group having 14 to 20 nuclear atoms and may be the same or different from each other;

 Ar^5 and Ar^6 are respectively a substituted or unsubstituted aryl group

having 5 to 30 nuclear atoms and may be the same or different from each other;

Ar⁷ and Ar⁸ are respectively a substituted or unsubstituted arylene group having 5 to 30 nuclear atoms and may be the same or different from each other; and n and m are respectively an integer of 0 to 1.

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- 3. The oligoarylene derivative according to claim 1, wherein the condensed aromatic ring in each of the general formulae (1) and (2) is selected from the group consisting of phenanthrene, pyrene, chrysene, triphenylene and perylene.
- 4. The oligoarylene derivative according to claim 2, wherein the arylene group in Ch³ of the general formula (3) is a divalent residue selected from the group consisting of phenanthrene, pyrene, chrysene, triphenylene and perylene, and the arylene group in Ch⁴ and Ch⁵ of the general formula (4) is a group selected from the group consisting of phenanthrylene, pyrenylene, chrysenylene, triphenylenylene and perylenylene.
- 5. The oligoarylene derivative according to any of claims 1 to 4, wherein the oligoarylene derivative is used as a luminescent material for organic electroluminescent devices.
 - 6. The oligoarylene derivative according to any of claims 1 to 4, wherein the oligoarylene derivative is used as a hole transport material for organic electroluminescent devices.
 - 7. An organic electroluminescent device comprising a cathode, an anode and an organic thin film layer sandwiched between the cathode and the anode which is constituted of a single layer or a plurality of layers including at least one luminescent layer, wherein at least one layer of the organic thin film layer contains the oligoarylene derivative as claimed in any of claims 1 to 4 as a single component or a component of a mixture.

8. The organic electroluminescent device according to claim 7, wherein the luminescent layer contains the oligoarylene derivative as claimed in any of claims 1 to 4.

9. The organic electroluminescent device according to claim 7, wherein the luminescent layer contains the oligoarylene derivative as claimed in any of claims 1 to 4 as a main component.

10. The organic electroluminescent device according to claim 7, wherein the luminescent layer further contains an arylamine compound.

11. The organic electroluminescent device according to claim 7, wherein

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12. The organic electroluminescent device according to claim 7, wherein the organic thin film layer has a hole transport layer containing the oligoarylene derivative as claimed in any of claims 1 to 4 as a single component or a component of a mixture.

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13. The organic electroluminescent device according to claim 12, wherein the hole transport layer contains the oligoarylene derivative as claimed in any of claims 1 to 4 as a main component.

the luminescent layer further contains an styrylamine compound.

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14. The organic electroluminescent device according to claim 7, wherein the organic electroluminescent device emits a blue light.